



License Agent News



California Department of Fish and Game
April 2008

LICENSE AND REVENUE BRANCH

1740 N. Market Boulevard
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 928-5805

JAMES FONG, CHIEF

jfong@dfg.ca.gov

BIG GAME HUNTING PROGRAM ANALYST

Rosemarie Carmona

(916) 928-7414
rcarmona@dfg.ca.gov

Lai Saechao

(916) 928-7416
lsaechao@dfg.ca.gov

LICENSE AGENT ANALYST

Suzanna Wilson

(916) 928-5836
srwilson@dfg.ca.gov

LICENSE AGENT ORDER DESK

(916) 928-7691
FAX (916) 419-7584
agent@dfg.ca.gov

INFORMATION

Agent Accounts & Sales Reporting Compliance Unit

(916) 928-5978
(916) 928-5979
(916) 928-5980
agent@dfg.ca.gov

License Requirements

(916) 928-5805
Fax (916) 419-7585
lrb@dfg.ca.gov

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:

www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/index.html

CalTIP

Report poaching or polluting incidents
(888) DFG-CALTIP or (888) 334-2258



2008/2009 INITIAL ORDER OF HUNTING ITEMS

Consignment Accounts

Enclosed is your initial shipment of 2008/2009 hunting items. Your initial consignment is based on your reported sales from the prior year.

Collect on Delivery (COD) Accounts

Enclosed is a License Agent Order Form to order your 2008/2009 hunting items. You may submit your order at anytime. These orders will be filled in late April.

Check Your Shipments Carefully!

Please check all shipments for discrepancies (i.e. missing or defective books, extra books not listed on the shipping report, etc...) if any, notify the License Agent Compliance Unit within five (5) business days of receipt.

Undelivered License Shipments

If you do not receive your initial shipment of hunting items by May 6, or within 15 business days after an order was placed, contact the License Agent Compliance Unit immediately to report a lost shipment. Shipments reported lost after six months cannot be verified and will not be adjusted from an agent's account.

Shipping Schedule

April	Hunting License Items
April	California Hunting Digest – Big Game
April	Deer Zone Map (Are provided as a courtesy to our customers and are <u>not</u> for sale, and unfortunately, are limited to one per license agent location)
June	Mammals and Furbearers Regulation Booklets

Return of Expired Inventory

The 2007/2008 Bear Tag and Deer Tag Applications are expired. If you haven't already, please complete a 2007/2008 Hunting Report Form and return all Hunter Education Validation Stamp (20070119), Bear Tag Application (20070113), and First and Second Deer Tag Application (20070114 & 20070134) books to the License and Revenue Branch as soon as possible.

BIG GAME DRAWING DEADLINE IS JUNE 2, 2008

In late April, the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) will mail the 2008 California Hunting Digest – Big Game, to approximately 60,000 hunters who participated in last year's big game drawing. After receiving the digest, hunters will be ready to purchase their license items and apply for the 2008 Big Game Drawing.

Make Sure Your Customers Are Not Left Out

Once you receive your initial shipment of 2008/2009 hunting items, verify your order and start selling **immediately**. Your customers depend on you to supply them with the correct hunting items to apply for the big game drawing. To apply, hunters must have the appropriate **2008/2009 California hunting license** (i.e. resident, nonresident or junior). **Be careful not to sell customers the wrong license year.**

IMPORTANT! Customers' drawing applications for antelope, elk, sheep and premium deer tags must be received at the DFG's License and Revenue Branch, Sacramento, no later than **5:00 p.m. on June 2, 2008.**

NEW FOR 2008!

New Requirements for Hunting in California Condor Range

Effective July 1, 2008, it will be **illegal to use lead projectile ammunition** for hunting deer, bear, wild pig, elk and pronghorn antelope in areas designated as California condor range. This area includes a portion of deer hunt zones A, D7, D8, D9, D10, D11 and D13, as well as the Fort Hunter Liggett and La Panza Tule Elk hunts. (Section 353, Title 14, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR))

Additionally, the regulations will prohibit the use of lead in the same areas when hunting coyote, ground squirrels, and other nongame wildlife. (Section 475, Title 14, CCR)

To help inform customers, the 2008 deer zone map has an overlay of the prohibited lead areas. The same map is printed in the California Hunting Digest – Big Game. Enclosed with your initial hunting order is a flyer regarding this new requirement. Please post both the flyer and deer zone map in prominent areas.

For more information on Hunting in the California Condor Range visit our web site:

www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/condor/

New Name, Same Great Hunts

The DFG has changed the name of its junior hunts to better reflect the level of instruction and supervision they offer. Now called Apprentice Hunts, most of these hunts are still open only to hunters possessing a valid Junior Hunting License. Most include a pre-hunt safety orientation, and junior hunters typically must be accompanied by an adult.

Hunter Education Validation Stamps Discontinued – As of January 1, 2008

Hunters no longer are required to have a Hunter Education Validation Stamp affixed to their Hunter Education Certificate. However, if customers possess the old Hunter Education Certificates without a unique number (ex: AA0000) they must contact their nearest DFG office to exchange for a new certificate.

Hunter Education Needs Your Help

Enclosed with your initial hunting order is our new laminated Hunter Education Information Flyer. The flyer contains all the information your customers need to find a Hunter Education class in their area. It also encourages them to become a Hunter Education Instructor and join us in passing on our wonderful hunting heritage. We ask for your assistance by posting the flyer in a prominent location at your business.

Proposed Regulatory Changes

The Fish and Game Commission will meet on May 9, 2008 to consider proposed changes and approve the 2008/2009 tag quotas. For information on the approved changes and/or tag quotas please contact your nearest DFG office after May 13, 2008.

Additional Tags for Northwestern California Roosevelt Elk Hunt

In 2007, the DFG offered a new elk hunt in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, known as the Northwestern California Roosevelt Elk Hunt. Overall success of the 2007 hunt was 90% and included animals harvested on both public and private lands. Although hunter success for the first year was high, most animals harvested were on private property where landowners may charge a fee to trespass. For 2008, 10 additional tags may be authorized by the Fish and Game Commission for a total of 20 either-sex tags.

New Definitions for Elk

The DFG is proposing to change the definitions for Bull Elk and Antlerless Elk. Under field conditions it is very difficult to identify antlers above the hairline but less than four inches (which is included in the current definition for Bull Elk). The proposed definitions are as follows:

- **Bull Elk:** Any elk having an antler or antlers at least four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.
- **Antlerless Elk:** Any elk, with the exception of spotted calves, with antlers less than four inches in length as measured from the top of the skull.

Instructions for Issuance

Please remind license sales staff to read the instructions on the license books prior to issuing license items. Questions regarding license requirements, issuance or reporting should be directed to the Department's Compliance Unit.

Important Sales Reminders

During the months of April, May, and June most License Agents will be selling 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 hunting items. Please ask your customers the following questions to ensure they are licensed properly:

- **When do you plan on hunting?** If on or before June 30, 2008, they will need 2007/2008 hunting items.
- **Are you applying for the Big Game Drawing?** If yes, they will need 2008/2009 hunting items.

Proof of Hunter Education

All applicants must show evidence of hunter education to obtain a California hunting license. Please refer to the inside back cover of the hunting license books for acceptable proofs of hunter education.

Hunting Licenses

By law, you cannot issue a blank license. When issuing a license, you must enter the date issued, the name, residence address, date of birth, and physical description. When someone buys a license for another person, you must write in the licensee's name and residence address before issuing the license. The licensee may not use the license until he/she has signed it and filled in the missing information (physical description and date of birth). (Sections 705 and 707, Title 14, California Code of Regulations)

Important! Remember to give the customer the "Application for Duplicate Hunting License" portion of the hunting license and remind them to keep it in a separate place as this application is required to obtain a duplicate hunting license at a reduced fee.

Hunter Survey

The DFG needs your assistance to effectively manage California's hunting programs. You can help to accurately estimate hunter effort and harvest rates. Please ask your customers to participate in the hunter survey and record the name, driver's license or ID number (optional), date of birth, and address of one hunter per hunting license book (see below).

Hunter participation is voluntary and all personal information provided is confidential and will only be used to contact hunters to conduct hunting surveys.

For more information please contact Mr. Tom Blankinship, of the DFG's Wildlife Branch, by telephone at (916) 445-3615 or email TBlankin@dfg.ca.gov.

Date of Birth	Name	Address	City	State	Zip	In ink, enter the date issued and hunter education evidence presented on the appropriate line below. If a declaration is used as proof of hunter education, write declaration on the appropriate line and staple the declaration to the back of the book cover.	
						Migratory bird hunters must have HIP stamp affixed to license.	
						Date	Hunter Education Evidence
						1.	_____
						2.	_____
						3.	_____
						4.	_____
						5.	_____
						6.	_____
						7.	_____
						8.	_____
9.	_____						
10.	_____						

Harvest Information Program (HIP) Survey

License Agents are required to ask all hunting license applicants if they plan on hunting migratory game birds. Hunters, who answer "yes", must complete a HIP form and you must affix a HIP stamp to the back of the applicant's hunting license. Persons hunting migratory game birds without a HIP stamp affixed to their hunting license may be cited. The following are considered migratory game birds:

All Ducks	Dove
Band-tailed Pigeon	Gallinules
Brant	Geese
Coots	Snipe

Mailing Completed HIP Forms

Completed HIP forms must be mailed to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) every two weeks in the envelopes provided by the DFG.

DO NOT use the envelopes to return sales reports; you will be held accountable for the late sales reports and may be subject to penalties and interest.

Selling Deer and Bear Tag Applications

When issuing deer and bear tag applications, you are required to write the applicant's deer and/or bear tag application number(s) on the appropriate space on the hunting license. This prevents hunters from obtaining more than the legal number of tags during each license year.

Important! Hunters must purchase a First Deer Tag Application prior to or along with purchasing a Second Deer Tag Application.

Issuing Deer Tag Applications

To help your customers, the following are requirements for issuing deer tag applications:

- Hunters must use a First Deer Tag Application to apply for premium deer tags in the Department's annual big game drawing.
- Junior hunters applying for an apprentice (junior) hunt tag may apply with a 2008/2009 Second Deer Tag Application.
- Junior hunters may not apply for Apprentice Hunts on more than one deer tag application.
- Junior Hunters who wish to apply for a C, D or premium zone deer tag should use a First Deer Tag Application.
- Hunters cannot use a Second Deer Tag Application to apply for X or C zone tags.

Important! Big Game Hunters **cannot** use their First Deer Tag, Second Deer Tag and/or Bear Tag Applications to hunt; they must acquire tags. To obtain hunt tags, they must turn in their completed Applications to a Department office or apply for premium deer tags in the Department's annual big game drawing.

Refund Policy on Unused Deer Tags

Please remind hunters that deer tag application fees are non-refundable except for A, B, C, D, AO#1 and AO#2 tags which may only be requested prior to the opening of the earliest season for which the tag is valid. Deer tags for X zones, Additional Hunts and Area-specific Archery Hunts are non-refundable. Refunds will not be issued for emergency closures due to fire, weather or any other unforeseeable conditions.

Selling Wild Pig Tags

Please remember that 2007/2008 hunting licenses and 2007/2008 wild pig tags are valid until June 30, 2008. If a customer requests to purchase wild pig tags during the months of April, May and June, make sure you ask when they plan on hunting.

- Hunters must have their hunting license present to purchase.
- There is no limit on the number of wild pig tags a hunter may purchase each year.
- Hunters must be at least 12 years of age at the time of purchase.

California Duck Stamps

California Duck Stamps are now valid until **June 30**. The 2007 California Duck Stamp book cover states the old expiration date of January 31, 2008. Please do not return your unsold or partially sold California Duck Stamp books until after June 30, 2008. The 2008 California Duck Stamps will be available to order in mid August.

Project Update - Automated License Data System

The Automated License Data System project (ALDS) also known as point-of-sale or POS, continues to progress slowly. As a result, ALDS will not begin implementation this summer as previously planned. Our priority is to deliver a quality system and as a result, the schedule has been postponed until 2009.

How does this impact you? For License Agents and our customers, the current paper based license system will continue until ALDS is implemented.

For the most current ALDS project information including a large section of Common Questions & Answers specific to License Agents, please visit our web site at: www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/automatedlicensesystem/introduction.html.

Updated License Agent Manual Coming Soon

An updated License Agent Manual (LAM) will be mailed to License Agents in May. If you do not receive your copy of the LAM by May 30, 2008 or if you need additional copies, please contact the License Agent Order Desk. Please ensure staff responsible for license issuance and reporting is familiar with the information contained in the LAM.

Just a Reminder

- Check your license inventory often and allow 15 business days for delivery of license orders.
- Sales report forms, order forms, fee posters and other valuable information is available online at www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/agents/agents.html.
- When placing a license order using the License Agent Order Desk voice mail system, please speak slowly and clearly and leave your name, business name, account number and telephone number with area code.
- If you have questions regarding your agent account, please contact the Department's Compliance Unit, by telephone at (916) 928-5978 or (916) 928-5979 or email agent@dfg.ca.gov.
- For information about other Department programs or regulations, visit the DFG web site at: www.dfg.ca.gov.

Holiday Schedule Department offices will be closed for the following State holidays, please plan accordingly:

May 26, 2008	November 11, 2008
July 4, 2008	November 27, 2008
September 1, 2008	November 28, 2008
October 13, 2008	December 25, 2008

Please share this information with your license sales staff to better serve your customers.